

No. 28939 Cpl. John McNamara, E. Surr. R. (Preston).

For conspicuous bravery, initiative, and devotion to duty.

When operating a telephone in evacuated enemy trenches occupied by his battalion, Cpl. McNamara realised that a determined enemy counter-attack was gaining ground. Rushing to join the nearest post, he made the most effective use of a revolver taken from a wounded officer. Then seizing a Lewis gun, he continued to fire it till it jammed. By this time he was alone in the post. Having destroyed his telephone, he joined the nearest post, and again displayed great courage and initiative in maintaining Lewis gun fire until reinforcements arrived.

It was undoubtedly due to the magnificent courage and determination of Pte. McNamara that the other posts were enabled to hold on, and his fine example of devotion is worthy of the highest praise.

No. 5046 L./Cpl. Henry Weale, R.W. Fus. (Shotton, Ches.).

For most conspicuous bravery and initiative in attack. The adjacent battalion having been held up by enemy machine guns, L./Cpl. Weale was ordered to deal with the hostile posts. When his Lewis gun failed him, on his own initiative he rushed the nearest post and killed the crew, then went for the others, the crews of which fled on his approach, this gallant N.C.O. pursuing them.

His very dashing deed cleared the way for the advance, inspired his comrades, and resulted in the capture of all the machine guns.

No. 285242 L./Cpl. Alfred Wilcox, Oxf. & Bucks. L.I. (Birmingham).

For most conspicuous bravery and initiative in attack when his company was held up by heavy and persistent machine-gun fire at close range.

On his own initiative, with four men he rushed ahead to the nearest enemy gun, bombed it, killed the gunner, and put the gun out of action. Being then attacked by an enemy bombing party, Cpl. Wilcox picked up enemy bombs and led his party against the next gun, finally capturing and destroying it.

Although left with only one man, he continued bombing and captured a third gun. He again bombed up the trench, captured a fourth gun, and then rejoined his platoon.

Cpl. Wilcox displayed in this series of successful individual enterprises exceptional valour, judgment, and initiative.

No. 42364 L./Cpl. Ernest Seaman, late R. Innis. Fus. (Scole, Norfolk).

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty. When the right flank of his company was held up by a nest of enemy machine guns, he, with great courage and initiative, rushed forward under heavy fire with his Lewis gun and engaged the position single-handed, capturing two machine guns and twelve prisoners and killing one officer and two men.

Later in the day he again rushed another enemy machine-gun position, capturing the

gun under heavy fire. He was killed immediately after.

His courage and dash were beyond all praise, and it was entirely due to the very gallant conduct of L./C. Seaman that his company was enabled to push forward to its objective and capture many prisoners.

No. 22614 L./Cpl. William Henry Metcalf, M.M., Manitoba R.

For most conspicuous bravery, initiative and devotion to duty in attack, when, the right flank of the battalion being held up, he realised the situation and rushed forward under intense machine-gun fire to a passing Tank on the left. With his signal flag he walked in front of the Tank, directing it along the trench in a perfect hail of bullets and bombs. The machine-gun strong points were overcome, very heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy, and a very critical situation was relieved.

Later, although wounded, he continued to advance until ordered to get into a shell hole and have his wounds dressed.

His valour throughout was of the highest standard.

No. 12311 Pte. Hugh McIver, M.M., late R. Scots (Newton).

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty when employed as a company runner. In spite of heavy artillery and machine-gun fire he carried messages regardless of his own safety. Single-handed, he pursued an enemy scout into a machine-gun post, and having killed six of the garrison captured twenty prisoners with two machine guns.

This gallant action enabled the company to advance unchecked.

Later, he succeeded at great personal risk in stopping the fire of a British Tank which was directed in error against our own troops at close range.

By this very gallant action Pte. McIver undoubtedly saved many lives.

No. 681139 Pte. Jack Harvey, Lond. R. (Camberwell).

For most conspicuous bravery and disregard of personal danger in attack.

When the advance of his company was held up by intense machine-gun fire Pte. Harvey at once dashed forward through heavy enemy fire and rushed a machine-gun post, shooting two of the team and bayoneting another. He then destroyed the gun and continued to work his way along the enemy trench, and, single-handed, rushed an enemy dug-out which contained thirty-seven of the enemy and compelled them to surrender. By these two acts of great gallantry he saved his company heavy casualties and enabled the whole of the attacking line to advance.

Throughout the entire operation he showed the most magnificent courage and determination, and, by the splendid example which he set to all ranks, materially assisted in the success of the operation.